GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1370
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
VISA ON ARRIVAL SCHEME
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start visa−on −arrival system at International Airports in order to encourage foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be started;

(d) the details of objections raised by the MHA to introduce this visa − on − arrival system ;

(e) whether the Ministry has got the necessary clearance from the MHA for starting this visa − on − arrival system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

a)&b) : Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tourism had mooted a proposal regarding Visa on Arrival Scheme for select countries. The Ministry of Home Affairs has not agreed to this scheme.

c) : Does not arise.

d) : The objections raised by the Ministry of Home Affairs are ;

(i) the prevailing global security scenario;

(ii) the present security concerns in the country;

(iii) lack of availability of infrastructure i.e., space, equipment and manpower presently available with immigration at the airports to facilitate effective implementation of the said scheme.

e): No, Sir.

f): Does not arise.